



Notes From A Loft

January 2023

The American Guild of Organists

Tampa, Florida Chapter

Celebrating 75 Years

ago-tampa.org

FROM THE SUB-DEAN

CALLING ALL SINGERS!!!

Rehearsal - Saturday, January 23, 2023 - 9 a.m. until Noon

Concert - Sunday, January 22, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.

(Reception will follow)

Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church

3501 West San Jose Street

Tampa, Florida 33629

The Tampa Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is presenting a Choral Festival in celebration of the chapter's 75th anniversary and we need your voices!

Come add your voice with members of the Tampa Oratorio Singers to sing the "classics" of choral literature! Music will be provided! The service will include congregational singing, an organ prelude, offertory and postlude, congregational hymns, and choral works by

Tschenokoff, Vivaldi, Brahms, Bach, Vaughn-Williams, and Mozart.

The program will be conducted by Nancy Callahan (Director of Music, Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church and Director of Music, Tampa Oratorio Singers) and accompanied by Dale Williams and members of the Tampa Chapter of the AGO.

A free-will offering will be received to continue the ongoing work of the Tampa Chapter through the Margaret Smith McAlister Scholarship Fund for young organists.

Contact Stephen Allen (Sub-Dean of the Tampa AGO) at slafl@aol.com to register yourself, friends and/or your church choir. ***Please RSVP by Tuesday, January 17, 2023.***

Stephen L. Allen, Sub-Dean – Tampa Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

FROM THE DEAN

Dear Tampa AGO Members and Friends,

Thank you! Thank you very much for your work, disciplined practice, patience, flexibility, quick thinking, smiles, and the love in your heart for beautiful music, and the Christmas message that you have brought to life for the people around you this Christmas season! "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" I hope you are feeling the satisfaction of having earned that accolade.

Looking forward I hope you and your friends, your choir, and your congregation can join us for our Tampa Chapter 75th Anniversary Choral Festival Jan. 21, and Jan. 22, 2023. What a great opportunity for singers in our choirs of all abilities to sing some of the world's most beloved masterpieces with the Tampa Oratorio Singers that already know all the parts! The Saturday workshop will prepare us, and the Sunday concert promises to be DIVINE! See you there!!

Sylvia Chai, Dean
Tampa Chapter AGO



2022 – 2023 Calendar of Chapter Events

October 30, 2022 – 4:00 pm – “Peculiar Pipes” – A Costumed Halloween Recital

First Presbyterian Church of Lakeland, 175 Lake Hollingworth Dr, Lakeland, FL 33801

Contact: Thomas Ingui (772) 913-0279 or hippomaster@gmail.com

November 13, 2022 – 4:00 pm – Members Organ Recital featuring

Tampa AGO Scholarship Winners and Our Young Organists

Grace Lutheran Church, 3714 W Linebaugh Ave, Tampa, FL 33618

Contact: Sylvia Chai (813) 390-0911 or sylviachai0@gmail.com

January 21-22, 2023 – see next page for details – Festival of Music with

Former Dean Nancy Callahan, Clinician, Members of the Tampa Oratorio Singers, the Chancel Choir, and All Interested Singers

Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church, 3501 W San Jose St, Tampa, FL 33629

Contact: Stephen Allen (813) 997-7859 or slafl@aol.com

February 14, 2023 – 7:00 pm – “Seven Chances” – A silent film with accompaniment on the Mighty Wurlitzer by Artist-In-Residence Steven Ball

Tampa Theatre, 711 N Franklin St, Tampa, FL 33602

[Promo code TAMPAAGO for \$3 ticket discount on online ticket sales]

Pre-Concert Dinner – 5:00 pm – Si-Am Thai Restaurant, 713 N Franklin St, Tampa, FL 33602

Contact: Steven Ball (609) 515-5857 or info@stevenball.com

March 19, 2023 – 4:00 pm – 22nd Bach Birthday Bash – Featuring Organ, Instrumental, and Vocal Works of Johann Sebastian Bach

Benefiting the Margaret Smith McAlister Scholarship Fund

Hyde Park United Methodist Church, 500 W Platt St, Tampa, FL 33606

Contact: Van Howard (813) 857-8800 or vbhoward@gmail.com

April 16, 2023 – 4:00 pm – Margaret Smith McAlister Scholarship Auditions

St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 13312 Cain Rd, Tampa, FL 33625

Contact: Edwin Taylor (203) 947-3497 or edwintaylor52@gmail.com

April 30, 2023 – 5:00 pm – Adam Brakel Organ Concert

Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church, 3501 W San Jose St, Tampa, FL 33629

Contact: Van Howard (813) 857-8800 or vbhoward@gmail.com

May 19, 2023 – 6:30 pm – Closing Dinner and Installation of Officers

Bonfish Grill, 3665 Henderson Blvd, Tampa, FL 33609

Contact: Van Howard (813) 857-8800 or vbhoward@gmail.com

Our Next Chapter Event – Don't Miss It!!!!

The Tampa Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

invites you to participate in a

CHORAL FESTIVAL

Sunday, January 22, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church

3501 West San Jose Street

Tampa, Florida 33629

Rehearsal – Saturday, January 21, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. until Noon

(Call Time – 4:30 p.m. on Sunday for concert)

Come and join your voice with area choirs to present an afternoon concert of music of the masters! Music will be provided! Singers are encouraged to wear choir robes from their respective churches. A reception will follow.

Works by Vivaldi, Brahms, Bach, Tschesnokoff, Mozart, and Vaughan Williams will be sung by the mass choir accompanied by brass, organ, and piano.

The program will be conducted by

Nancy Callahan

Director of Music, Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church

Director of Music, Tampa Oratorio Singers

Contact Stephen Allen (Sub-Dean of the Tampa AGO) at slaf1@aol.com to register yourself, your friends and/or your church choir.

Please RSVP no later than Tuesday, January 17, 2023

This program is in celebration of the

75th anniversary of the

Tampa Chapter of the AGO.

A free-will offering will be received to continue the ongoing work of the Tampa Chapter through the Margaret Smith McAlister Scholarship Fund for young organists.

If you are not able to sing, we need volunteers to take up the offering at this concert.
Please contact Stephen Allen or Van Howard if you can assist.

Looking Ahead in February

An Evening at the Historic Tampa Theatre

February 14, 2023 - 7:00 pm - Valentine's Day

"Seven Chances" - A silent film with accompaniment on the Mighty Wurlitzer
by Artist-In-Residence (and Chapter member) Steven Ball
Tampa Theatre, 711 N Franklin St, Tampa, FL 33602

[Promo code TAMPAAGO for \$3 ticket discount on online ticket sales]

Pre-Concert Dinner - 5:00 pm - Si-Am Thai Restaurant, 713 N Franklin St, Tampa, FL 33602 - please RSVP for dinner to Van Howard via email to vbhoward@gmail.com by February 7, 2023, to enable our reservation.

Contact: Steven Ball (609) 515-5857 or info@stevenball.com



Other Upcoming Events

A photograph of a man with short brown hair, wearing a grey long-sleeved shirt, sitting on a wooden church bench. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. In the background, there is a white statue on a pedestal and some red flowers. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

AN EVENING OF MUSIC WITH
**CHRIS
BRUNELLE**

January 26 | 6:30 p.m.
St. Patrick Catholic Church
4518 S. Manhattan Ave., Tampa

Welcome New Members!!

Walter Litzenberger

Jeremy Rath

2022 – 2023 Officers – Tampa Chapter

Dean

Sylvia Chai

Sub-Dean

Stephen Allen

Secretary/Treasurer

Van Howard

Members-At-Large

Steven Ball

Dennis Douglas

Thomas Ingui

Tony Sievert

Rebecca Steinke

Edwin Taylor

Rebecca Steinke, Webmaster

John Matthew Cowan, Social Media Coordinator

Please send any newsletter submission by no later than the 25th of the prior month for the next month's newsletter to Van Howard at vbhoward@gmail.com

Positions Available

Please send available positions to Van Howard at vbhoward@gmail.com along with clear contact information for any inquiries

Substitutes Available

(O - Organist, P - Pianist, O/D - Organist/Director, D - Director, V - Vocalist)

Please send updates or corrections to this list to Van Howard at vbhoward@gmail.com. Inclusion in this list does not constitute the Chapter's endorsement of skills, and thus it encourages interviews with prospective substitutes. Those listed must be a member of the American Guild of Organists.

Mr. Stephen Allen	O/D	(813) 997-7859	Mon - Sat
Mr. Timothy Belk	O/D	(704) 309-0822	Sun, Tue - Sat
Ms. Cheryl Blackwell-Cox	O/P	(813) 465-3332	Sun - Sat
Ms. Sylvia Chai	O/D	(813) 390-0911	Sun - Sat
Dr. Christopher Combie	O	(813) 990-7369	Mon - Fri
Dr. Michael Dougherty	O/D	(813) 624-6768	Mon - Sat
Mr. Dennis Douglas	O	(813) 352-4748	Mon - Sat
Mr. John (Jay) Findlater	O/P	(313) 410-6478	Sun - Sat
Mr. Myles Hayden	O/D	(727) 644-6534	Sat
Ms. Jan Ellis Highsmith	O	(813) 495-8905	Sun - Sat
Ms. Frances Johnson	O/P	(813) 730-4173	Sun - Sat
Mr. Cal Leferink	O/D	(813) 850-9845	Mon - Fri
Ms. Rebecca Steinke	O/D	(619) 841-8930	Mo, Tu, Th, Fr
Mr. Edwin Taylor	O/D	(203) 947-3497	Sun - Sat
Mr. Kurt Taylor	O/D	(660) 631-9416	Sun - Sat
Dr. Shawn Thomas	O/D	(850) 316-0321	Mon - Sat
Mr. Brandon Vennink	O/D	(508) 208-7774	Mon - Fri
Ms. Sarah Whitt	O	(813) 928-2102	Sun - Sat